02-277

Norman H. Fuss, Jr.

413 Ashwood Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185-2705 CEIVED & INSPECTED

May 12, 2003

MAY 2 8 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC

Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to urge you to oppose any attempt to relax the restrictions on the ownership of broadcast media that are currently in force.

Our continued existence as a free and democratic country depends on the right of every viewpoint to be expressed. That right is guaranteed under the First Amendment to our Constitution. But that *right* is worthless without the *ability* to be heard. And increasingly that ability is defined by access to the public media, especially the broadcast media.

FCC rules changes that would permit greater concentration of ownership of broadcast media in markets would, in my opinion, carry the serious risk of shutting down access to the media by spokespersons with views that do not correspond to the views that the major media companies hold. Those few companies already have tremendous power to influence what the American people believe by their domination of the large networks. And they have in the past repeatedly demonstrated what I believe is a disturbing tendency to trumpet certain views while suppressing others - in plain language, to bias their reporting.

So I urge you to keep access to the media - and hence to the people - available to those with what may be views that are unpopular with the management of the major media companies by retaining the existing restrictions on the ownership of broadcast media. In fact, I would suggest that the FCC might want to investigate the possibility of tightening those rules in such ways as would facilitate the ability of those with differing viewpoints to make them known to the American public.

Sincerely, Homan H. Frans

Norman H. Fuss, Jr. 413 Ashwood Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185-2705

MAY 2 8 2003
FCC - MAILRO

May 12, 2003

The Honorable Michael J. Copps Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC

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Morning House

Confirmed JUN 0 3 2003 May 8,2003 Distribution Center The Honorable Keven J. Martin Commun BECEIVED & HISPECTED 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, Ac 20554 FCC-MAILROOM Re: Broadcast punciship rules. Hear Mr. martin, Please de not relax vunuship rule. By daing so, We need to key the many devais independent voces. rendy, a Debrend ochen

John G. Fehrenbacher 5051 E. West Point Ln. Oiney, IL 62450-4045

Lorraine Gold 21 Hardwick Rd., Blairstown, NJ (908) 362-8724

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To: The Honorable Michael Powell, Chair, FCC 445 12th St., SW, Washington, DC 20554

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

Re: Biennial Review - Proposed Media Concentration Rules, Section 202(h) Media Buleau Docket Kb. 02-271

Dear Chairman Powell:

+ Commissioner Copps

This letter is sent as testimony in support of strengthened ownership limits. Broadcast and newspaper ownership in the same market must be prohibited.

Attempts to get rid of the current, already weakened limits, by the largest media giants, indicate a disregard for the public good and for a sustainable democracy. "The media" should be diverse. Indeed, Americans need and rely on being able to obtain a diversity of viewpoints. Recent consolidation is endangering this wonderful part of our American way of life. We already see too few owning too much. The public airways must be protected.

I am sure that you are aware that there are only five independent television studios, 280 independent newspapers, and radio companies are similarly being consolidated (with two companies now owning 1451 stations, and 25 groups owning 25% of our radio stations.) This is bad for our country.

Having such a limited number of owners also means that there is a lack of necessary competition. Without meaningful competition a dull and deadly monotony will prevail. I think much of what the major media puts out now is catering to a very low level of morality and culture and could be greatly improved. Further narrowing of the creative spectrum, and having the major producers mainly concerned about corporate profits, means that creative efforts will not be adequate to reach and enrich the hearts and minds of the citizens of this country.

Further, when too few major players dominate the airways, local content will be minimally available, if there at all. Even with cable, what one sees on TV is only more of the same.

The proposed media concentration rules are not public so I cannot comment on specifics. I can only hope and pray that you will act with the courage and dignity and foresight that this issue demands and that you will use your power to protect America and the highest ideals that this country holds dear.

Sincerely, Louising Joed Lorraine Gold

Thank you so much for all you are doing. You are a true petrict!

Barbara Goldin 80 Warner St. P.O. Box 981 Florence, MA 01061 May 21, 2003

Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S Adelstein Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554 1-888-225-5322 FAX 1-866-418-0232

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am writing to urge you to postpone the June 2nd vote in order to allow for more open discussion and public forums on the issue of further deregulation of the media.

What happened after the relaxation of media regulations in 1996 is a warning – like the canary in the coalmine - of what can take place with further weakening of the rules that help preserve competition and diversity. After 1996, Clear Channel Communications was able to buy over 1200 radio stations, as well as owning many other forms of media. Free speech on the airwaves has now been compromised and has led to litigation in the courts. As the Future of Music Coalition's study found, radio now serves to advertise the products of vertically integrated conglomerates rather than to entertain us with the best and most original programming. If the FCC votes to further relax the regulations, we will see the biggest wave of media consolidation in history. The FCC will give a handful of large corporations greater influence over what is – and what isn't-reported in the news.

According to a study by the Pugh Charitable Trust, over 70% of the American public, is not even aware of the June 2 vote. This speaks to the fact that the media as a whole has not covered this important upcoming vote. Why hasn't it? After all, aren't these the public's airwaves we're talking about? Honestly, as an American, I am afraid for our free speech rights. I am afraid of what will happen if one company is allowed to own the local newspaper, several TV and radio stations, and the cable TV system in the same community. Of what will happen with fewer owners of networks, stations and newspapers nationwide. Of what will happen to informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints.

The Supreme Court wrote: "(I)t is the purpose of the First Amendment to preserve an uninhibited marketplace of ideas in which truth will prevail, rather than to countenance monopolization of that market, whether it be by the government itself or a private licensee."

Therefore, I urge you to re-instate traditional media ownership rules for the sake of competition and democracy. I urge you to consider the importance of programming that informs and educates the public and presents a wide range of viewpoints, not programming that exhibits a lack of diversity and viewpoints with newspaper reporters who are afraid to report the news like it is – including this FCC vote – for fear of losing their very jobs.

I urge you to carefully analyze and gather facts in an open minded way about what the impact of increasing consolidation will have before you change the rules.

And I urge you to postpone the June 2 vote.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Diamond Goldin

Robert F Gray 103 Angel Ct Warner Robins GA 31088

478-953-9283

MAY 2 8 2003

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 FCC-MAILROOM
Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Martin:

I implore you; do not relax the broadcast ownership rules that have protected the American public from media monopolies for so many years.

The proposed changes would certainly open the way for the media conglomerates to obtain almost total control of both radio and television news and information in our towns and cities all across our nation. Many, if not most, of the corporations are now lobbing FCC to relax ownership rules have a well known track record in trying to keep opposing views off the air.

Americans deserve to hear more than just one point of view on any and all important issues. For the sake of our democracy and for the sake of our very freedom, I urge and implore you to keep the broadcast ownership protections that for decades have helped to ensure healthy debate on political and other issues in our communities and our country.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Gray

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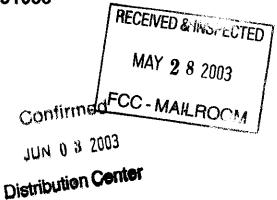
Robert F Gray 103 Angel Ct Warner Robins GA 31088

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R/r

Robert F Gray 103 Angel Ct Warner Robins GA 31088

478-953-9283

May 15, 2003

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JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

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Sincerely,

Robert F. Gray

R/r

JULIAN GONZALEZ, D.M.D.

8 South Bumby Avenue Orlando, FL 32803

Telephone: (407) 898-2565

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MAY 2 8 2003

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JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

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Dear My Copps

Pleage do not relax the

breadcast ownership rules.

This would give even more power to the conglomerates.

Thank you.

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Distribution Center

MAY 2 8 2003

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RECEIVED & INSPECTED

May 6, 2003

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

It will be a very sad day for our country when the FCC can no longer impose ownership rules which prevent media monopolies from restricting the information that the American public receives.

Please help the FCC support democracy and freedom rather than bend to interest groups which cannot tolerate controversy in their agendas.

Thank you for your concern,

Ruhala Hat 1

Richard R. Gartner, Jr.

313 Quail Run Drive Centreville, MD 21617

Clarence R. Grott, Ph.D.

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 2 8 2003

895 North 625 East Westville, IN 46391-9403

Phone 219-926-7736

FCC - MAILROOM

May 8, 2003

Confirmed

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

I am critical of a concerted effort of governmental and financially controlled interests — the Powers-To-Be — trying to dumb the American people down and promote ignorance.

The prevailing winds of human opinion — money, societal approval and politic correctness — are now our usual motivators. Education, family values, spiritual and moral ethics have all but gone down the drain along with some of our freedoms as guaranteed (at least in interpreted spirit) by The Declaration of Independence. There is a malignant ideology to satisfy greed, self-gratification and control. As the younger generation says, "It sucks and I hate it!"

Within the constraints of legal ethics, our First Amendment of the Constitution (Bill of Rights) gives every citizen the right to express his opinion.

I wholeheartedly agree with and support the concerted effort by the National Rifle Association of America opposing media executives gaining monopoly control over what the American people read, see, hear and think.

To embody the spirit of their agenda:

"I urge you <u>NOT</u> to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue to broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country."

To the opponents of such freedom, I highly encourage them to take advantage of other great American freedoms: (1) THE RIGHT TO CHANGE STATIONS AND NOT LISTEN TO WHAT OFFENDS YOU, and, (2) THE RIGHT TO SELECT AND NOT READ MEDIA THAT OFFENDS YOU!

Thank you for your consideration.

Clarence R. Grott

Sincerely

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

02-277

Clarence R. Grott, Ph.D.

895 North 625 East Westville, IN 46391-9403

Phone 219-926-7736

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MAY 2 8 2003

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Clarence R. Grott

Sincerel



The Reverend Mr. Randy Martin Gibson, BA, M.Div. 5550 Lincoln Avenue

Hemet, California 92544-1755

Distribution Center

Confirmed

WAY 2 8 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

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Sincerely, RandyM. Dibson

Randy M. Gibson



The Reverend Mr. Randy Martin Gibson, BA, M.Div. 5550 Lincoln Avenue

Hemet, California 92544-1755

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Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

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15 May 2003

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Randy M. Gibson



15 May 2003

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Sincerely,

Randy M. Gibson

Benjamin F. Harrison III 2735 Northwoods Drive, S. Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621 14 May, 2003

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C., 20554

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MAY 2 8 2003

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Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

I am informed that the Federal Communications Commission has asked for public comment concerning proposed rule changes regarding the prohibition of what amounts to monopoly ownership of media sources, known as "Broadcast Ownership Rules". These changes, if approved as proposed, would make sweeping changes in the rules, materially weakening them, which would then, allow giant media corporations to form, as monopolistic entities, and/or to allow the "already too large" media conglomerates to further extend their "strangle hold" on what the populace reads, sees, and hears.

This whole effort is something that should never have gotten this far! It would be an outrage to allow the media to further consolidate their power over the information that is furnished daily to the public. At present, the media has far too much invasive effect on the public's opinions on issues of the day, allowing only programming that suites their personal agendas, some of which are contrary to our Constitution, by the way! Even now we have what amounts to "brain-washing" by the media, despite the current rules of the Commission, making one wonder what has already gone amiss.

Please do not contribute to the further degradation of our system, by allowing the likes of AOL Time Warner, Viacom/CBS, Disney/ABC and others, to sway the Commission into acceptance of the proposed changes to the detriment of free men trying to exercise their rights under the First Amendment which may run contrary to the designs of the media monopoly(which would be allowed by the proposed rule changes).

Thank You for taking the time to review my reasoning as to why the proposed rule changes should not come to pass.

Yours Very Truly,

Benjamin F Harrison III

2735 Northwoods Drive, South Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621

Benjamin F. Harrison III 2735 Northwoods Drive, S. Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621 14 May, 2003

Federal Communications Commission JUN 0 3 7003
Washington, D.C. Distribution Center

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2735 Northwoods Drive, South

Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621

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The American people (and your descendents) deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Happnie

Sharon, MA, 02067

0

Mr. Daniel Happnie 29 Beach Rd. Sharon, MA 02067 5/9/03

The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 2 8 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

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Sincerely,

Daniel J. Happnie

Sharon, MA, 02067

5/9/03

Confirmed

JUN 6 5 2003

Distribution Center

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May 9,2003

Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center



Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I have recently been informed that there are before you and your fellow Commissioners, proposed changes in ownership rules that currently prohibit monoply ownership of media sources.

I sincerely beg and urge you NOT to change these safeguards!

The voting public deserve to hear ALL SIDES of important issues. If media giants like AOL-Time-Warner get to control more than they already do, we will only be 'spoon-fed' one side, their side, of the many issues which we need to be informed of by getting oposing views before us. The rules currently on the books were initiated in good faith to protect us from such monoplies..

Please do NOT change your rules! Thank you.

Sincerely,

C.A.Holm

11 a Holm

Box 183

Elmer City, WA 99124-0183

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MAY 2 8 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Katherine Hodge 15 S. Oxford, #4 Brooklyn, NY 11217

May 14, 2003

Michael Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, 20554

Confirmed

JUN 0 3 2003

Distribution Center

Re: Media Diversitye

Powell:

I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business--and the casualties will be the people of the U.S.

The free flow of information, the benefits of local competition and the power of a diverse marketplace will virtually disappear.

I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review the remaining regulations. These regulations must be kept in place, and strengthened, not weakened. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Katherine Hodge

George Hicks 10648 Alta Sierra Drive Grass Valley, CA 95949-6841

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MAY 2 8 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 Confirmed

JUN 6 = 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Powell,

In my sixty-four years of living experience I have witnessed what I believe has been a gradual, yet insidiously purposeful effort to control the news media in our country. For many years, the rich and powerful have devoted much time and great sums of money to monopolize the broadcast industry. I have recently learned that they are renewing their efforts to gain virtually total control of radio and television news and information programming.

I am asking you to *please withhold your support of the efforts to change broadcast* ownership rules and I urge you to insist upon continuing to protect broadcast ownership from monopolization in the future.

Sincerely,

George Hicks

George Hicks 10648 Alta Sierra Drive Grass Valley, CA 95949-6841

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I am asking you to *please withhold your support of the efforts to change broadcast* ownership rules and I urge you to insist upon continuing to protect broadcast ownership from monopolization in the future.

Sincerely,

George Hicks

George Hicks 10648 Alta Sierra Drive Grass Valley, CA 95949-6841

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY $oldsymbol{2}$ $oldsymbol{8}$ 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

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JUN 0 3 2003

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